

1st Battalion 506th Infantry (Currahee)



The Shield

The blue field symbolizes the Infantry, the 506th’s branch in the Army. The thunderbolt indicates the Regiment’s unique technique and method of attack: striking with speed, power and surprise from the sky. The six parachutes represent the 506th’s distinction as the sixth Parachute Infantry Regiment activated in the United States Army during World War II, of which the unit is proud. The green silhouette represents--Currahee Mountain-- the site of the Regiment’s activation and symbolizes the Regiment’s strength, independence, and ability to Stand Alone-- for which paratroopers are renowned.

The Motto

The first step in separating the men from the boys was the famous three-mile run. It consisted of running three miles to the base of Mount Currahee, three miles up the mountain, three miles down, and three miles back to the start without stopping or slowing the pace. This twelve-mile run was conducted every morning before breakfast. Mount Currahee became a symbol of and an inspiration to the men who challenged it daily. A Cherokee Indian name meaning “We Stand Alone,” Currahee became the motto and battle cry of the Regiment, for little groups of paratroopers landing deep behind enemy lines against overwhelming forces truly had to “Stand Alone!”.

“Stands Alone!”